

over-long. But one good turn deserves another, and if the superior of the Ursulines works for the archbishopric, Monseigneur de Troyes will work for her candidate; nor would it be a very difficult task for him, as the candidate for whom he would be expected to interest himself is a pronounced partisan of the principle of freedom of instruction, the only political question in which the clergy takes any interest at the moment. When you have the clergy, you are very near having the legitimist party, which, being also warmly in favor of freedom of instruction, is by no means dismayed, in its hatred of the monarchy of July, at the thought of an unnatural union with the radical party whenever the opportunity presents itself. The head of the legitimist party in the province is the house of Cinq-Cygne. The old marchioness, of whose haughty character and powerful will you are well aware, madame—See *A Dark Affair*—never comes to her Château de Cinq-Cygne without paying a visit to Mother Marie des Anges, who once had for a pupil her daughter Berthe, afterwards the Duchesse de Maufrigneuse. As for the latter's husband, he cannot escape us, for Daniel d'Arthez is my friend, as you know, and through D'Arthez we have, beyond a peradventure, the Princesse de Cadignan, mother of the pretty little duke on whom we are conspiring to lay our hands. Now, if we turn toward a quarter from which we must look for more resistance, toward the so-called conservative party, which we must not confuse with the